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Higher Food and Energy Costs Lead to Increase in Winthrop's Room and Board Rates

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Higher Food and Energy Costs Lead to Increase in Winthrop's Room and Board Rates

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Winthrop University students will pay around **4-6 percent higher room and board rates** in the fall, depending on which housing option students select, the university's Board of Trustees decided at their quarterly board meeting on April 11.

This is the third year in a row university officials have let families know in the spring about the partial costs of attending Winthrop, according to **J.P. McKee**, vice president for finance and business.

Winthrop officials cite recent indicators showing **higher food and energy costs** across the nation as the major reasons for the room and board increases for the next academic year.

The **full cost** will be decided at the **June 6 board meeting** when members set tuition and academic fees. Those fees are dependent on the state budget, which has not been determined by state lawmakers.

For the 2008-09 academic year, residential rates will increase **6 percent for traditional and suite-style** residence hall rooms and **4 percent for apartment-style living**. Rates for a double room, suite style, will rise \$115 to \$2,005, while a double room, hall bath style, will increase \$115 to \$1,950. Students who chose single occupancy, suite style, will pay \$230 more, or \$4,010, and those in single occupancy, hall bath style, will pay \$230 more, or \$3,900. One- and two-bedroom apartment room fees will increase 4 percent to \$2,960 and \$3,370, respectively.

Board rates for **student meal plans** will increase **5 percent**, or \$55 more, to \$1,120.

All Winthrop first- and second-year students who aren't living with parents within 50 miles of campus live on campus. Students will have access to different types of living/learning communities and special programming created to be "progressively developmental" for traditional-age students. The housing policy is a key part of an educational plan designed by Winthrop to help students acclimate themselves to college while developing the inter-personal skills and judgment necessary to succeed in today's world.

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